

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application.

I. AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification is amended to correct minor informalities and to amend the paragraph under the **Brief Description of the Drawing** to clarify what the views are.

II. RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

In reply to the April 20, 2011 Restriction and Election of Species Requirement, Applicants provisionally elects Group 1, claims 1-12, 15-23 and 25, and Species 1, Figure 1, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims and species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims and species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims and species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Further the indication that each of Figs. 3A-3B, 4A-4B, 5A-5B, and 6A-6B are separate species is incorrect as each of Fig. 3B, Fig. 4B, Fig. 5B, and Fig. 6B is a top view of the embodiment of Fig. 3A, Fig. 4A, Fig. 5A, and Fig. 6A, respectively.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the Restriction and Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Edward J. Wise
Registration No. 34,523

JAO:EXW/scg

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: August 19, 2011

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry of this filing; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>
